

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MANAGU 01681 011632Z

41

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAB-01 AID-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 IO-10 ARAE-00 /071 W

----- 123580

P 011600Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6863

INFO AMEMBASSY PANAMA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANAGUA 1681

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PORG, PGOV, PN, OAS, NU

SUBJECT: TORRIJOS VISITS TO OTHER CENTRAL AMERICAN STATES

REF STATE 099699

1. PRESIDENT SOMOZA HAS ADVISED THAT HE IS AWARE OF THE DISCUSSIONS WHICH PANAMANIAN CHIEF OF STATE TORRIJOS HAD IN HIS VISITS TO GUATEMALA, EL SALVADOR, AND COSTA RICA. SOMOZA HAS STATED THAT HE BELIEVES THERE IS NO SIGNIFICANCE TO THE FACT THAT TORRIJOS DID NOT STOP IN NICARAGUA, EXCEPT THAT TORRIJOS WAS AWARE OF THE NICARAGUAN POSITION ON THE THREE PRINCIPAL ISSUES WHICH HE DISCUSSED: (1) SOMOZA'S CONSISTENT POSITION HAS BEEN NOT TO APPLY THE BANANA TAX AS DESIRED BY PANAMA; (2) NICARAGUA HAS ALREADY EXPRESSED ITSELF AT THE UN AS HAVING COMMITTED ITS VOTE FOR THE SECURITY COUNCIL SEAT TO ARGENTINA AND, (3) SOMOZA IN THE MEETING OF PRESIDENTS AT PORTO ORDIZ GAVE "LIP SERVICE" TO THE RESOLUTION OF THE PANAMA CANAL ISSUE.

2. SOMOZA BELIEVES THAT IN GUATEMALA THE TWO PRINCIPAL OBJECTIVES OF TORRIJOS WERE: (1) BANANA TAX, AND (2) TO OBTAIN SUPPORT FOR PANAMANIAN SEAT IN UN SECURITY COUNCIL. OBJECTIVES WERE SOMEWHAT LESS PRECISE IN EL SALVADOR AND COSTA RICA, BUT SINCE POSITION OF NICARAGUA WAS WELL KNOWN TO TORRIJOS ON ALL THREE ISSUES ABOVE, SOMOZA BELIEVES THAT TORRIJOS DID NOT FEEL
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USEFUL PROGRESS COULD BE MADE IN NICARAGUA BY BRIEF STOPOVER.

SHELTON

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ITINERARY, CHIEF OF STATE VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MANAGU01681
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750153-0689
From: MANAGUA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750589/aaaadegd.tel
Line Count: 62
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 099699
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 SEP 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09 SEP 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <10 SEP 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TORRIJOS VISITS TO OTHER CENTRAL AMERICAN STATES
TAGS: PFOR, PORO, PGOV, OVIP, PN, NU, XK, OAS, (TORRIJOS HERRERA, OMAR)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006